

For more information email:
ribml_clinic@rib.uscourts.gov

The Rhode Island Bankruptcy Legal Clinic is staffed by experienced bankruptcy attorney volunteers and offers free information and guidance to individuals who are representing themselves in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The lawyer that volunteer at the Clinic can help the self-represented debtor understand the bankruptcy process and provide limited case specific advice, but they cannot represent the debtor in court or file pleadings.



RI Bankruptcy Legal Clinic

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court
380 Westminster Street,
6th Floor
Providence RI 02903

Phone: 401-626-3100

Website: www.rib.uscourts.gov

Rhode Island Bankruptcy Legal Clinic

Providing free legal assistance for people representing themselves in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island

The 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month:

11am—12 noon by appointment

- 30 minute consultations
- Sign up: www.rib.uscourts.gov/clinic



How Can We Help You?

WHEN CAN I GET HELP AT THE CLINIC?

The Clinic is open the first and third Wednesday of each month from 11 am to 12 pm and is held via telephone or video.

DO I NEED TO HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?

Yes, you will need to set up an appointment. Appointments are made online at www.rib.uscourts.gov/clinic

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR THE APPOINTMENT?

You will need to complete an Intake Form and Liability Waiver before the appointment. Intake Forms and Liability Waivers can be downloaded from our website www.rib.uscourts.gov/clinic.

HOW LONG IS MY CONSULTATION?

The Clinic provides the self-represented debtor an opportunity to speak with a volunteer bankruptcy attorney for a free half-hour consultation.

WHAT DO I DO IF I'M ON A DEADLINE?

If you have an important deadline upcoming soon, please contact the clinic staff immediately to set up an appointment by calling 401-626-3100 or by sending email to ribml_clinic@rib.uscourts.gov. The Clinic does give priority whenever possible to those who are on a deadline.

Be Prepared Before Your Appointment

- Complete the required two forms:
 1. “Intake Sheet”, which is used to gain an understanding of your financial condition, and
 2. “Agreement for Limited Legal Advice”, which confirms the limited scope of legal advice provided and contains a conflict waiver.
- Write a list of specific questions for the attorney.
- Inform the attorney of the most recent court papers that were served on you or that you filed with the court.
- Have all documents, contracts & paperwork related to your case, including your bankruptcy schedules of assets and liabilities available.
- Identify any deadlines and tell the attorney.
- Visit the Bankruptcy Court’s website at www.rib.uscourts.gov for forms, guides, videos and other valuable resources.

If you have not yet filed for bankruptcy, please attempt to compile the following documents to discuss at your appointment:

- Your most recent pay stubs or other income statements for ALL income you receive (e.g. full or part time job, child support income, retirement income, child care income, etc.).
- Your most recent W-2 or Tax Return.
- Your credit report—which you can receive free of charge once per year from the following:
 - Equifax—<http://www.equifax.com>
 - TransUnion—www.transunion.com
 - Experian—www.experian.com
- Your most recent bank statements.
- Documentation of the value of your real estate (e.g. house, land) - examples include past appraisals, an estimate from www.zillow.com, tax assessor’s value, etc.

If you have not yet filed but you have drafted your filing forms, you may discuss them at your appointment.

What We Do

Volunteer attorneys provide limited legal advice and information on bankruptcy issues including, but not limited to (1) petition and schedule preparations; (2) the reaffirmation process; (3) individual exemptions and (4) other bankruptcy topics.

Assist you in preparing court documents.

Provide referrals and other resource information.

What We Do Not Do

- We DO NOT give legal advice on:
 - * Adversary Proceeding
 - * Criminal matters
 - * State court cases
 - * Non bankruptcy related issues
- We do not provide representation in court, and will not represent you as your attorney.
- We do not complete forms or file pleadings on your behalf.
- We do not give advice on the telephone or by email.
- We do not get paid for work done at the Clinic .

